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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/673,465

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EXAMINER

BRIGGS, NATHANAEL R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/673,465	Applicant(s) PARK ET AL.	
	Examiner Nathanael R. Briggs	Art Unit 2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments filed October 19, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

2. Applicant argues that the amendments to claims 1 and 15 should reasonably have been expected to be claimed, including a citation of MPEP § 706.07(a). However, since the present amendments further limit the claims, there is no reasonable expectation for these present amendments (see MPEP § 706.07(a), "For example, one would reasonably expect that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 for the reason of incompleteness would be replied to by an amendment supplying the omitted element."). Applicant's arguments are not persuasive.

3. Regarding the rejections of claims 1 and 15, Applicant argues that since the device of *Zhang* is not an in-plane switching (IPS) liquid crystal display (LCD) device, it would not have been obvious to combine the structure of the device of *Zhang* with the IPS device of *Suzuki*. However, the devices of *Suzuki* and *Zhang* constitute analogous LCD art. Furthermore, the structure of an IPS LCD device versus a matrix LCD device does not distinguish the placement of the capacitors as claimed, and it would have been obvious to combine the references as stated. Applicant's arguments are not persuasive.

4. Rejections of claims 1 and 15 are therefore maintained.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-20, 22-25, and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al. (US 6,333,769) in view of Zhang et al.

(6,411,351).

7. Regarding claims 1 and 15, Suzuki discloses an LCD (see figures 1 and 3, for instance), having a substrate (1A) with a display (AR) and non-display part, a gate line (3), a common line (50), and a data line (4) crossing the gate line (3) and the common line (50) while being insulated therefrom, to define a pixel area (53). However, Suzuki does not expressly disclose wherein the LCD has at least one capacitor in the non-display part and connected to at least one of the gate line, the common line and the data line.

8. Regarding claims 1 and 15, Zhang discloses an LCD (see figure 1, for instance) having at least one capacitor (107) in the non-display part and connected to at least one of the gate line, the common line and the data line (102).

9. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the capacitor disclosed by Zhang in the LCD of Suzuki. The motivation for doing so would have been to improve production yield of manufacturing LCD's by suppressing failure caused by electrostatic breakdown, as taught by Zhang (column 2, lines 53-56). Claims 1 and 15 are therefore unpatentable.

10. Regarding claims 2 and 16, Suzuki further discloses the LCD device according to claims 1 and 15 (see figures 1 and 3, for instance), further having a common electrode

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(50A) in the display part (AR) of the substrate (1A) and connected to the common line (50); a TFT (TFT) at a crossing area of the gate line (3) and the data line (4); a gate insulating film (column 5, lines 25-30) between the gate line (3) and the data line (4); a protective film (column 5, lines 25-30) on the gate insulating film (column 5, lines 25-30) for protecting the TFT (TFT); and a pixel electrode (53) connected to the TFT (TFT) to form a horizontal electric field with the common electrode (column 2, lines 64-67).

Claims 2 and 16 are therefore unpatentable.

11. Regarding claims 3 and 17, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 2 and 16 (see Zhang, figure 1, for instance), wherein the capacitor (107) includes a first capacitor (107) connected to at least one of the gate line (111) and the common line; and a second capacitor (107) connected to the data line (110). Claims 3 and 17 are therefore unpatentable.

12. Regarding claims 4 and 18, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 3 and 17 (see Suzuki figure 1, for instance), further having a first static electricity prevention means (NL) in the non-display part of the substrate (1A) and connected to the gate line (3) and common line (50), which would be attached to the first capacitor; and a second static electricity prevention means (NL) in the non-display part of the substrate (1A) and connected to the data line (4), which would be attached to the second capacitor. Claims 4 and 18 are therefore unpatentable.

13. Regarding claims 5 and 19, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 4 and 17 (see Zhang figures 1 and 3(C), for instance), and Zhang further discloses wherein the first capacitor (107) includes a first shorting bar (307)

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connected to the first static electricity prevention means, at least one layer of insulating film (306) on the first shorting bar (307); and a first dummy line (330) to overlap the first shorting bar (307) on the at least one layer of insulating film (306). Claims 5 and 19 are therefore unpatentable.

14. Regarding claims 6 and 20, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 5 and 19 (see Zhang figures 1 and 3(C), for instance), and Zhang further discloses wherein the first shorting bar (307) includes the same metal as any one of the gate line and the data line (column 6, lines 29-31, and lines 38-39). Claims 6 and 20 are therefore unpatentable.

15. Regarding claims 8-9 and 22-23, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 5 and 19 (see Zhang figures 1 and 3(C), for instance), and Zhang further discloses wherein the at least one layer of insulating film (306) is the gate insulating film (306) and the protective film (306). Claims 8-9 and 22-23 are therefore unpatentable.

16. Regarding claims 10 and 24, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 4 and 17 (see Zhang figures 1 and 3(C), for instance), and Zhang further wherein the second capacitor (107) includes: a second shorting bar (307) connected to the second static electricity prevention means; at least one layer of insulating film (306) on the second shorting bar (307); and a second dummy line (330) to overlap the second shorting bar (307) on the at least one layer of insulating film (306). Claims 10 and 24 are therefore unpatentable.

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17. Regarding claims 11 and 25, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 10 and 24 (see Zhang figures 1 and 3(C), for instance), and Zhang further discloses wherein the first shorting bar (307) includes the same metal as any one of the gate line and the data line (column 6, lines 29-31, and lines 38-39). Claims 11 and 25 are therefore unpatentable.

18. Regarding claims 13-14 and 27-28, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 10 and 24 (see Zhang figures 1 and 3(C), for instance), and Zhang further discloses wherein the at least one layer of insulating film (306) is the gate insulating film (306) and the protective film (306). Claims 13-14 and 27-28 are therefore unpatentable.

19. Claims 7, 12, 21, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al. (US 6,333,769) in view of Zhang et al. (6,411,351) as applied to claim 1-6, 8-11, 13-20, 22-25, and 27-28 above, and further in view of Nishikawa (US 5,686,976).

20. Regarding claims 7, 12, 21, and 26, Suzuki in view of Zhang discloses the LCD device according to claims 5, 10, 19, and 24 (see Zhang figures 1 and 3(C), for instance). However, Suzuki in view of Zhang does not expressly disclose wherein the first and second dummy lines include the same metal as the pixel electrode.

21. Regarding claims 7, 12, 21, and 26, Nishikawa discloses an LCD (see figure 7, for instance), wherein the dummy lines are made of the same metal as the pixel electrodes (column 4, lines 42-44).

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22. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the dummy line structure of Nishikawa in the LCD of Suzuki in view of Zhang. The motivation for doing so would be to reduce manufacturing costs by using a reduced number of masks while improving image display quality, as taught by Nishikawa (column 4, lines 5-8). Claims 7, 12, 21, and 26 are therefore unpatentable.

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathanael R. Briggs whose telephone number is (571) 272-8992. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM - 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.




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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nathanael Briggs  
12/27/2006

  
ANDREW SCHECHTEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER